

00 OCT 26 PM 3: 54

PARISH OF  CALCASIEU
State of Louisiana

RESOLUTION

FMCSA 97-2350-21882

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Transportation, through the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, on May 2, 2000 proposed regulations that govern the hours of operation of trucks utilized by utility companies, such rulemaking being contained in "Hours of Service of Drivers; Rest and Sleep for Safe Operations;" and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal regulations pertaining to the hours of service performed by commercial motor vehicle drivers apply these provisions to utility personnel and their utility trucks and vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal regulations, if adopted, will profoundly threaten public safety, reliability and costs of utility operations; and

WHEREAS, the proposed rulemaking as applied to electric utility companies has the undesirable effect of impeding effective and timely customer service and adversely impacting utility operations and consumer satisfaction; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Louisiana, as well as other states, the services of utility personnel and vehicles are in enormously high demand to restore or stabilize electric power supplies during times of disaster or other extraordinary circumstances, such as hurricanes, tornadoes, ice storms, and prolonged heat waves; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Calcasieu Parish could be harmed by delays in response to dangerous situations like downed power lines, and hampered by delays in the restoration of electricity, if utility company personnel and their vehicles are forced to comply with the reduction of services and hours.

and request the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration of the United States Department of Transportation to review and modify the proposed regulations particularly as they relate to "Hours of Service" provisions, and grant to utilities an exemption similar to that granted for the operation of other emergency vehicles like fire trucks and rescue vehicles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration of the United States Department of Transportation, and to the Louisiana Congressional Delegation, to convey the position of the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury on this vital issue.

THUS PASSED AND ADOPTED on the date above inscribed.

* * * * *

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF CALCASIEU

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original resolution as adopted by the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury in regular session convened on the 5th day of October, 2000.